

Wednesday, 10 o'clock. A. M.
December 22, 1847.

Senate met—roll called. The following Senators answered to their names:

Messrs. Abbott, Bourland, Brashear, Burleson, Clark, Cuny, Dancy, Gage, Grimes, Jewett, KcRae, Navarro, Parker, Perkins, Phillips, Wallace, Williams and Wooton—quorum present. The Journal of the preceding day was read and adopted.

Mr. Gage presented the petition of sundry citizens of Cherokee and a portion of Nacogdoches and Houston counties, praying for a new county, which,

On motion of Mr. Gage, was referred to the committee on Counties and County Boundaries.

Mr. Clark offered the following Resolution:

"Resolved, That the Secretary of State be, and he is hereby requested to furnish the Senate with a statement of the enumeration of the inhabitants of the State, as made to him by the Assessors and Collectors of Taxes, of the several counties of the State, in view of the arrangement by the present Legislature of representation as required by the 29th section of the 3d Article of the Constitution:" adopted.

Mr. Burleson offered the following Resolution:

"Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed on the part of the Senate, to act in conjunction with a committee of the House, to make suitable arrangements for the reception of the remains of the late gallant Capt. Samuel H. Walker:" adopted.

Messrs. Burleson, Dancy and Phillips were appointed said committee.

Mr. Jewett, by leave, introduced a bill, to be entitled an act, to provide for vesting in the State escheated property; read 1st time.

Mr. Phillips, by leave, introduced a bill to be entitled an act for the punishment of crimes and misdemeanors, which was read 1st time.

A message was received from the House, through its chief clerk, Mr. Ben. F. Hill, informing the Senate that the House had unanimously adopted a Resolution, appointing a joint committee of the Legislature, to make suitable arrangements for the reception of the remains of the late Capt. S. H. Walker, and

had appointed Messrs. Robertson, Railey, Irion, Allen, Lewis and McCown, said committee on the part of the House.

Mr. Phillips introduced a bill to be entitled an act, to amend the Eleventh Section of an act, entitled "An Act defining the office and duties of coroners," approved May 13th, 1846: read first time.

On motion of Mr. Phillips, the following communications from the Secretary of State, and the Commissioner of the General Land Office, were read:

SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE, }
Austin, Dec. 21, 1847. }

To the Honorable the President of the Senate:

Sir—I had the honor this morning to receive the resolution of the Senate, in relation to the "Archives from the original department of Bexar," and in reply I have to state that on yesterday afternoon, George Van Ness, clerk of the county court of Bexar, accompanied by V. E. Howard, Esq., called at the State Office, and inquired if there were not some boxes of papers left here belonging to Bexar? I replied that there were three boxes in the passage, which had been sent here from the General Land Office, where they had been examined, and the papers relating to the General Land Office taken out, and I understood that the documents remaining belonged to the county of Bexar. Early this morning, before breakfast, Mr. Van Ness came with a wagon and took the three boxes, saying that if there were any papers in them not belonging to Bexar, they should be returned. I have known nothing of these boxes, except the general understanding that they contained the archives of the old municipality of Bexar.

Mr. Van Ness assures me that the boxes are still in town, and will be detained and held subject to the order of the Senate.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID G. BURNET.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, }
December 21, 1847. }

To the Honorable the President of the Senate:

Sir—In reply to the resolution of the Honorable Senate, of the 20th instant, requiring the Commissioner of the General Land Office to communicate to that body, "whether or not any Archives from the original department of Bexar are now in his office; and, if so, whether or not, any of such Archives relate to the land titles of this State." I herewith enclose a statement from the Spanish clerk of this office, who examined the Archives alluded to, and which I trust will be satisfactory.

Some of the Archives referred to have laid in this office until this morning, from whence they were removed by the Authorities of Bexar county, previous to the receipt of the resolution of the Senate.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,
your very obedient servant,
THOS. WM. WARD.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE, }
Austin, 21st December, 1847. }

To the Honorable Thos. Wm. Ward,
Commissioner of the General Land Office, :

Sir—In obedience to the resolution of the Hon. the Senate of the State of Texas, directed to you under date 20th instant, requesting you to communicate, whether or not any Archives from the original department of Bexar are now in this office, and if so, whether or not any of such Archives relate to the land titles of this State, I have the honor to report, that, on the 13th October, 1846, five large and two small boxes, containing Spanish documents were received in this office, from the office of the Secretary of State, for examination; that, according to your instructions, I have examined the contents of those boxes, and have compiled all the land titles and papers having reference to Lands, Colonization, Missions, Empresario Contracts, Orders, Decrees, and laws of Spain, Mexico, and Coahuila and Texas

within the limits of Texas proper, and some of Coahuila, which were found in the said boxes. That the remaining part of the papers relate to matters belonging to the Probate Courts and other departamental, and city matters of Bexar, Goliad, and Nacogdoches, and the military and revenue service, the administration of justice, political matters, revolutionary movements, proclamations, &c., of the country, from its settlement to the end of 1835.

I have the honor to be, respectfully,

your obedient servant,

GEO. FISHER,

Spanish Clerk General Land Office.

Mr. Williamson offered the following Resolution :

"Resolved, That permission be given to George Van Ness, county clerk of Bexar county, to transmit to said county the papers now in his possession, received from the State Department under the assurance of his returning to the General Land Office papers relating to land titles of general interest: adopted.

On motion of Mr. Parker, the nomination of the Hon. Amos Clark, as Judge of the Sixth Judicial District, was taken up and referred to a select committee, with power to send for persons and papers.

Messrs. Parker, Gage, Jewett, Williamson and Williams were appointed said committee.

Mr. Wallace presented sundry documents in relation to said nomination, which were read and referred to said select committee.

Mr. Gage presented sundry resolutions adopted at a meeting of the members of the Bar, in attendance upon the District Court of Henderson county; which were read and referred to the same committee.

Mr. Wallace offered the following Resolution :

"Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Senate, to wait upon the Hon. House of Representatives of the State of Texas, and through the Hon. Speaker thereof, to request that they will, at their earliest convenience, transmit to the Senate all such bills and resolutions on the file of unfinished business of the House of Representatives, as originated in the Senate, during the last session of the Legislature:" adopted.

Messrs. Wallace, Cuny and McRae were appointed said committee.

Mr. Abbott introduced joint resolution authorizing and requiring the Governor to propose a sale of the public lands to the United States: read 1st time.

Senate then proceeded to the orders of the day:

A bill to be entitled an act, to provide for the location of the county site of Grayson county: read 2d time, and referred to the committee on counties and County Boundaries;

A bill to be entitled an act, better to define the boundary of Grayson county: read 2d time, and referred to the committee on counties and county boundaries.

Mr. Perkins offered the following Resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on contingent expenses be instructed to make arrangements to pay the postmaster, out of the contingent fund for the use of the Senate, the postage on any and all newspapers and public documents, on which postage is required by law to be paid, which may be sent through the postoffice by the members of the Senate during the present session: adopted.

The President of the Senate appointed the following standing committees:

Committee on Engrossed Bills—Messrs. Perkins, Jewett, McRae and Grimes.

On Enrolled Bills—Messrs. Abbott, Wootten, Gage and Burleson.

The committee on Engrossed Bills made the following Report:

SENATE CHAMBER. }
December 22d, 1847. }

Hon. John A. Greer, President of the Senate:

The committee on Engrossed Bills have examined a joint resolution "to repeal the joint resolution granting farther time for the payment of government dues and the return of field notes," and finding the same correctly engrossed, have directed me to report accordingly.

S. W. PERKINS, Chairman.

On motion of Mr. Burleson, the Senate adjourned until 3 o'clock, p. m.

3 o'clock, p. m.

Senate met—roll called—quorum present.

Mr. Perkins offered the following Resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Hon. Antonio Navarro, Senator from Bexar county, be allowed an interpreter for the present session, and that such interpreter be allowed, out of the contingent fund for the use of the Senate, three dollars per day while employed as such:" adopted.

On motion of Mr. Cuny, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

Thursday, 10 o'clock, a. m.
December 23d, 1847.

Senate met—roll called—The following Senators answered to their names:

Messrs. Abbott, Bourland, Brashear, Burleson, Clark, Cuny, Dancy, Gage, Grimes, McRae, Navarro, Parker, Perkins, Phillips, Wallace, Williams and Wootten—quorum present—The Journal of the preceding day read and adopted.

Mr. Jewett introduced a bill to be entitled an act, to prohibit the sale or disposal of powder, lead, or spirituous liquors to Indians: read 1st time.

Mr. Wallace offered the following Resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Lieutenant Governor of the State, now presiding, *ex officio*, as President of the Senate thereof, appoint all the standing committees of the Senate, in his discretion, for and during the present session of the Legislature of said State; it being one of his prerogatives to do so, and it devolving upon him otherwise according to Parliamentary usage, as understood by the Senate:" adopted.

Mr. Gage offered the following Resolution:

"*Resolved*, That a special committee of five be appointed, whose duty it shall be to take into consideration, and report to the Senate by bill or otherwise, as to the best probable mode of